

The Polish Review



303 SQUADRON SHOOTS DOWN 200TH PLANE

Poland's famous 303 Squadron recently celebrated the shooting down its 200th German plane by giving a party in Ognisko Polskie for American and British friends. The Squadron commander and his wife welcomed the guests as they arrived, among others Ministers Kot, Kukiel, Izycki, numerous members of Polish forces including the former commander of the Squadron, Major K. Other guests were U.S.A. Major General Kepner, British Air Chief Marshal Sir Trafford Leigh Mallory, KCB, Air Vice Marshal Sanders.

Among a varied array of uniforms the navy blue of our girl ferry pilots stood out, also the khaki of the Pestki. Captain F. spoke briefly in English, then presented pilot-officer S. who shot down the 200th plane with a gold watch and gave the squadron's emblem to group-captain Crisham, former commander of their station. After he had read a letter from Gen. Sosnkowski, Minister Kot said:

"This famous squadron, founded in 1919, is a symbol of Polish-American friendship, for it was founded by American pilots who came to fight for Poland in her hour of need and repay the debt of their country to our great national heroes: Kosciuszko, who took part in the American Independence War, and Pulaski who gave his life to the cause of American independence, and to all Poles who devoted their efforts to build the greatness of the American republic.

"When we honor this famous squadron do not let us forget other squadrons which escorted day and night raids over Germany, or our heroic bomber crews who cover themselves with glory. Our men are not only fighting for Poland but hastening the victory we all so earnestly desire."

Major General Kepner declared he was not prepared to make a speech, but would like to say a few words on this great occasion for the Poles who once won renown in the fight for American independence. Being in a Fighter Squadron he had a chance to observe Polish Fighter pilots who escorted the U.S.A. bombers working hand in hand with Americans. "303 Squadron," he declared, "was traditionally connected with America, for in 1918 the U. S. volunteers led by the famous American airman Fontleroy formed the Kosciuszko Squadron, paying an old debt by coming to fight in Poland's defence." He hoped 303 men would shoot down plenty more Germans.

CITY OF NEW YORK

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

"October 11th is Pulaski Memorial Day. At no time more than this year should the people of this City give observance to the memory of this great patriot who was so helpful to our country as well as to the country of his birth. On this day we may also pay tribute to the heroic people of Poland and renew our assurance to them of full and complete cooperation.

"It was on the 1st of September, 1939, that the Germans crossed the Polish border—not at one point, but over every highway and country road, a mass attack on a country with which it had no quarrel, on a country which established its independence and demonstrated to the world that it was worthy of the liberty for which they waited centuries, a country that was prosperous, peaceful and happy.

"The Nazis made this mass attack upon Poland because they wanted to impress their own people of their might—that strange belief that attacking smaller countries outnumbered in troops and cannons, and planes, that the slaughtering of innocent, non-combatant women and children demonstrated courage. But that is the history of the Nazis: bold, cruel, powerful against the weak and inoffensive; cringing, retreating, defeated when faced with equal strength.

"But there was something in Poland that the Nazis wanted. First Poland's strategic position in preparing for its later attack against its then friend Russia, and to loot the fields and rob the people of its food, to capture the industries and enslave its labor. So ruthlessly and cruelly the Nazis marched on, taking all that was good, destroying what they could not take. Yes, marching on to Warsaw in overwhelming strength, and there the tanks met an unexpected and non-understandable defense not in tanks, for there were none, not in artillery, for it had already been destroyed in its brief attempt to stop the hordes of brutes—but the defense of the unarmed people of the City of Warsaw led and inspired by its brave mayor, Stefan Starzynski. The Nazis were not satisfied with the taking of Warsaw. They had first sought to intimidate its people by constant air attacks until little remained of what was once a beautiful and proud city. This was followed by artillery which bombarded the city day after day, and night after night. And even then the Nazis had to fight every inch on every street before they finally captured and held the City of Warsaw.

"The defense of Warsaw is one of the great epics of this dark period of our civilization. Even after its capture, for months and months it was necessary for the Nazis to keep a large army, for the people refused to be suppressed and resisted the oppressors. Words cannot describe the courage and determination of the people of Poland. Words can be of little comfort now, for the people of Poland are deserving of something more than just admiration or moral support. It is good that we can provide something more than that—the absolute and definite assurance that their country will be liberated, the solemn promise that the war will not be over until Poland is free again, until the invaders—the oppressors—every single Nazi will have been driven out of Poland except those who will be held to rebuild with their own dirty hands part of what they destroyed. A free and independent Poland will be re-established—no, not re-established, for it was never destroyed—the Polish people refused to be conquered although their country had been occupied.

"There is so much to be done. We must first give full and complete support to the armies that are now fighting the Nazis: more work here at home; more production of tanks and guns and planes and ammunition; more production of food and ships to get that food to the people as soon as the military situation will permit; no time to be lost in reviewing the terrible hours of the past but quick and energetic action to restore and rebuild.

"Yes, the people of America say in their assurance to the people of Poland 'We are coming—coming first with our armies and then with our cooperation. We will first dry the tears of the Mermaid. We will help to rebuild. A new Poland will arise. A new Warsaw will again flourish. The people of Poland will again be happy—the Mermaid will smile again.'"

F. LA GUARDIA,

Mayor.

BUTCHER FRANK SENDS LOOT AND WIFE TO SAFETY

German officials are evacuating their families from Poland. As a result of the organized action of the Polish Directorate of Underground Resistance which is carrying out a series of death sentences against high German officials. Moreover the Russian offensive approaching the Polish frontiers intensifies the uneasiness of the Germans in Poland.

First to start a full-scale evacuation of his family was Governor General Frank whose armored train was attacked recently by Poles, while he was on his way to Warsaw. Frank decided to send his wife back to Bavaria. Removal of Frank's belongings consisting mostly of art treasures pilaged from the Wawel Castle in Cracow and other Polish museums and country estates is being done by a well-known German firm of removers—Karl Schenker and Company. Among other precious objects evacuated to Germany together with Frau Frank is Leonardo De Vinci's famous picture "The Lady in Ermine," requisitioned by Frank from the Czartoryski Museum in Cracow.

POLISH HONOR FOR CHIEF OF IMPERIAL STAFF

Recently in London the Polish President invested the Chief of the Imperial General Staff, General Sir Allan Brooke with the grand ribbon of Polonia Restituta. At the investiture the President was attended by the Commander-in-Chief and the Defense Minister. Among the British generals present were: Deputy Chief of the General Staff, General Nye, General Sir Hastings Ismay, General Carton De Wiart, and others.

At another ceremony in the Polish Embassy in London, President Raczkiewicz, in presence of General Sosnkowski, Minister Kukiel and other high Polish officers, invested seventeen British officers with the order of Polonia Restituta. The President addressed the officers and said among others: "I am happy to have the opportunity to honor a number of distinguished officers for their outstanding services rendered to Poland by their full-hearted and devoted cooperation with Polish Armed Forces. I am convinced that the brotherhood in arms between Polish and British achieved during these years will become a firm link between our nations as well as one of the elements assuring future and permanent cooperation in tasks awaiting us after victory."

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BIOLOGICAL EXTERMINATION OF POLISH YOUTH

DR. HENRY Z. LYNN

GERMAN policy of extermination of the Polish younger generation is not dictated by mere cruelty. It is a scientifically organized procedure aiming at the biological extermination of the Polish nation. To grasp its full meaning one must know something of the demographic policy of the invader.

Biologically, the German nation has been deteriorating for some 30 years. While 58,700,000 children were born in the Reich in the decade of 1881-1910, in the period of 1911-1940, there were only 38,700,000 births. The immediate effect of this drop was a marked increase in the average age of the German population.

In the years between the two World Wars the percentage of natural increase in population in Poland was twice as high as in Germany. What is more, it showed an actual biological growth against an actual biological deficit in Germany. The numerical increase in Germany's population—that is the difference between the number of children born alive and the number of deaths—reflects an increasing average of longevity and an insufficient number of births.

For nearly a generation the Germans have been greatly concerned over the ever increasing fertility of the biologically young Polish nation compared to the biologically old Germans.

The percentage of age classes in the total population of the two countries was as follows:

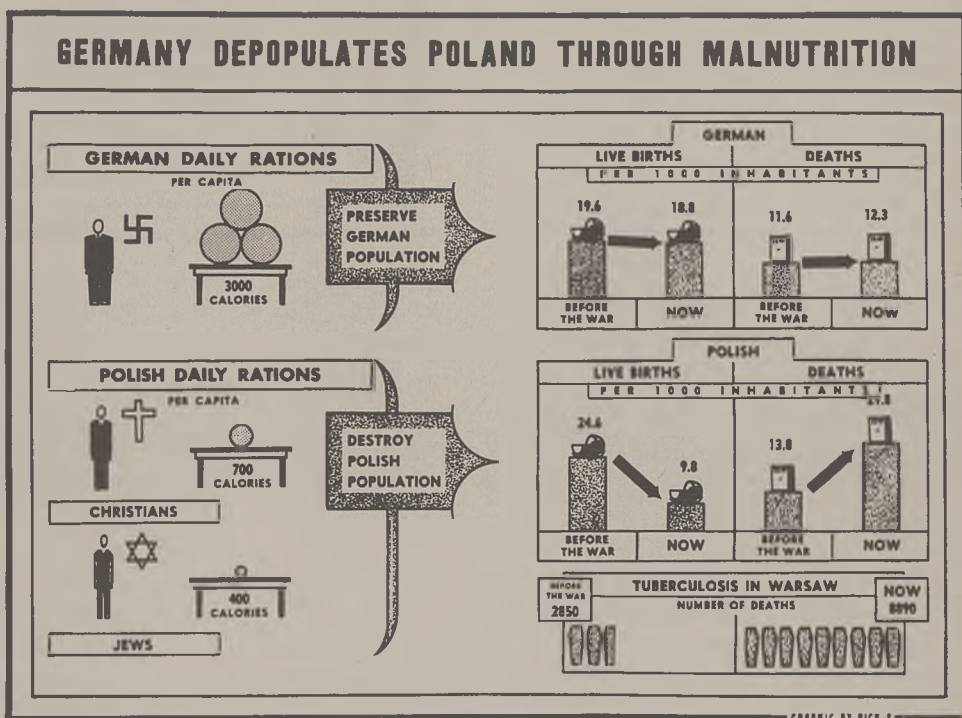
	Germany (1933)	Poland (1931)
0 to 14 years.....	24.2	33.4
15 to 64 years.....	68.7	61.7
65 and above.....	7.1	4.9

These figures show that in Poland's demographic structure the ratio of the "biological investment capital" (class 0 to 14 years) was 38% higher than in that of Germany.

The chief reason for this German inferiority was the decline in the German reproduction rate.

In future fertility cycles this low reproduction rate must naturally further lower the number of potential mothers and therefore decrease fertility.

In the total female population the percentage of female



children of the age class 0 to 14 years, that is of potential future mothers, was:

	in Germany (7.31.1937)	in Poland (12.31.1938)
0 to 4 years.....	7.9%	10.3%
5 to 9 years.....	7.2%	10.9%
10 to 14 years.....	8.0%	11.4%

We see that in Poland the ratio in the 0-4 year group was 30.4% higher than that in Germany, the ratio in 5-9 year group—51.4% higher and in the 10-14 year group—42.5% higher.

German scientists are well aware of what the future holds for Germany. On the basis of these reproduction statistics, it is easy to calculate that in the decade of 1960 to 1970 the manpower and mobilization potential of Poland would be equal to that of Germany.

That is why in their fiendish efforts to exterminate the Polish nation the Germans not only massacre Polish children, but use all available means to prevent reproduction of the Polish race—by Polish women.

The German order, issued in the western provinces of (Please turn to page 4)

BIOLOGICAL EXTERMINATION OF POLISH YOUTH

(Continued from page 3)

Poland illegally "incorporated" in the Reich forbids Polish women to marry under 29 years of age, so as to prevent reproduction. Women of 20 to 29 years of age show the greatest fertility, and the reproduction of the race depends on them.

For every 1,000 women of these respective age groups the following number of live children was born:

	under 20 years	20-24 years	25-29 years	30-34 years
Germany (1936)	12.5	105.3	137.5	105.0
Poland (1931/2)	24.7	115.6	189.3	164.0

The Germans realize that the fertility of women in these age classes is much higher in Poland than in Germany. For this reason they have declared marriages in this age class illegal, and look upon the offspring born from them as "non-existent." This means that such mothers are refused ration cards for themselves and milk for their "non-existent" babies. Thus Poland's legitimate children are condemned to death. While on the other hand, in the Reich, German women are urged to bear children out of wedlock as a patriotic duty and such illegitimate children are under special care of the German state.

It is essential for the world to realize what the Germans are doing, and to understand that their policy of biological extermination is not confined to the murder of living beings but also aims at preventing the conception of children who would be born in the natural biological process of replacement.

Infant mortality among newly born babies has reached a level unknown in the history of mankind. According to reports from Warsaw (where conditions are more favorable than anywhere else in Poland)—58% of all children born in December, 1939, died before they reached the age of one year, as against pre-war mortality of babies of that age which was 13.6% for entire Poland.

Everything indicates that the percentage of infant mortality in all Poland is even higher than in Warsaw. That this infant mortality is deliberately "promoted" by the invaders becomes obvious when we compare these figures with those of the Reich and Austria. In 1937 infant mortality (children below 12 months of age) in the Reich was 6.5% and in Austria 8.9%.

Older children and youths must die in masses or degenerate physically as the result of the ingenious and cruel system of food control, introduced by the Germans. Rations provided for Poles and Jews do not supply more than 25% of the calories needed by the human body. Instead of the necessary daily ration of 2,400 calories minimum—people of Poland get 450-600 calories.

In compliance with German orders the caloric value of the soups distributed by charitable institutions in Warsaw has been steadily decreased. Thus:

In December, 1940,	it contained appr. 460 calories
In May, 1941,	it contained appr. 259 calories
In June, 1941,	it contained appr. 182 calories
In July, 1941,	it contained appr. 153 calories
In August, 1941,	it contained appr. 164 calories

FOOD FOR GERMANS, FORBIDDEN TO POLES



- WHEAT BREAD**
WHEATEN FLOUR (P)
ROLLS AND LUXURY PASTRIES
CAKES
VEAL AND PORK
HAM
POULTRY
GAME
LARD
MACARONI
RICE
NATURAL HONEY
SALT FISH
FRESH FISH
SMOKED FISH
SALTED HERRING (P)
SARDINES AND MACKEREL
HERRING SALAD
ANCHOVIES
JELLIED MUSSELS
MARINATED FISH
- CRABS**
LUXURY VEGETABLES
DRIED VEGETABLES
CANNED VEGETABLES
ONIONS
LOCAL AND SOUTHERN FRUITS
LEMONS (P)
BERRIES (P)
CURRENTS
FRUIT JUICES
CHERRY SYRUP
CONDENSED MILK
COCOA
COFFEE SUBSTITUTE (P)
MUSHROOMS
NUTS
SOUP CUBES
CHOCOLATE AND
CHOCOLATE PRODUCTS
SWEETS (P)
PUDDING POWDERS

THE LETTER (P) INDICATES THAT THIS ARTICLE IS SOMETIMES ALLOWED TO POLES



GRAPHIC BY PICK 1

Since, at the end of August, 1941, the addition of flour to these soups was prohibited, their caloric value has been even lower. 70,000 portions of soup were distributed daily by these canteens to Warsaw children.

No wonder that disease and epidemics have ravaged Poland on a scale hitherto unknown. The invaders have no desire and make no attempt to alleviate this situation. In the best situated territory, i.e., Warsaw, the appalling death-rate is an eloquent testimony of the havoc wrought there by disease:

Average weekly death rate in 1936	251
Week of June 1-7, 1941	999
Week of June 8-14, 1941	857
Week of June 15-21, 1941	981
Week of June 22-28, 1941	1,184

In 1939, there were 23 cases of typhus fever in Warsaw, in 1940 there were 1,949 cases, and in the eight months of 1941—5,931 cases, i.e., almost 390 times more per annum than before the war. In all probability these figures do not tell the whole truth, because the Germans have no special interest in publishing statistics of deaths in the Jewish Ghetto.

Of those cases Jews represented 90%. The epidemic was brought on and was further spread by continual deportations and transfers of population by living in small and overcrowded quarters, by lack of soap and linen, fuel and clothes. Instead of scientifically fighting the epidemics the invaders use it as a pretext for new acts of terrorism and for introduction of new police measures. Psychological depression caused by this situation has also much to do with the increase of the disease. But the most serious factor in the spreading of the epidemics is the fact that the three biggest Warsaw hospitals as well as most of the beds in other hospitals are filled with wounded German soldiers from the Russian front—hence there is no room for isolation of the typhoid victims.

Tuberculosis is spreading too in a degree hitherto unknown in Poland. While in 1938 there were 2,850 reported cases in Warsaw, in 1940 there were 6,543 and in the eight months of 1941—5,893, which would mean about 9,000 cases

in a year. Consequently the official death rate in Warsaw shows a constant increase:

	Christians	Jews	Total
Actual number	5,485	1,878	7,383
Per 1,000 inhabitants	5.9	5.0	5.7

	Christians	Jews	Total
Actual number	8,959	12,916	21,875
Per 1,000 inhabitants	9.6	24.3	14.9

Among the causes of death special increase is shown (per 1,000):

	1938	1940
Tuberculosis	15.4	31.6
Heart disease	23.8	49.7

It is natural that the youngest age groups provide the most fertile ground for epidemics. Dirt, small overcrowded quarters, undernourishment and faulty diet lacking carbohydrates, proteins and fats, lack of soap and bed-linen, insufficient clothing, create ideal conditions for the spreading of disease and increase of death rate.

An appalling number of orphans among the Polish children, often homeless and purposely neglected by German authorities adds to this gloomy picture.

A report recently received by the Polish Government tells of the inhuman treatment of the people of Warsaw by the invader. It says: "The most sorrowful sight in the Ghetto is that of swarms of homeless children who beg, steal and die 'en masse' in house doors, in the piles of rubble and in the streets. Some of these children, dirty, wild and more like some small animals than human beings, try to escape

PRINCIPAL FOODS CONSUMED IN POLAND

WEEKLY CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA FOR URBAN POPULATION	BREAD	MEAT	FATS	MILK	SUGAR
PRE-WAR CONSUMPTION	105 oz	35 oz	9 oz	75 oz	12 oz
PRESENT RATIONS					
FOR GERMANS	80 3/4 oz	12 1/2 oz	7 oz	LOCALLY RATIONED	17 1/2 oz
FOR POLES					
CHRISTIANS	68 oz*	3 1/2 oz*	1 1/2 oz	NONE	2 1/2 oz*
JEWS	14 oz	NONE	NONE	NONE	1 1/2 oz

* SEPTEMBER 1943 FIGURES

GRAPHIC BY PICK 5

from the Ghetto. In the second half of October, 1940, German policemen publicly drowned 30 Jewish children, caught in the act of leaving the Ghetto."

In addition to the above, mention should be made of the great number of casualties among children, caused by war activities, indiscriminate bombing of towns and villages, by fires and shells. It is estimated that one-third of the 50,000 deaths during the bombardment and siege of greater Warsaw in 1939 were children and young people.

Lacking statistics, we are not able to give a full picture of this planned extermination of the young Polish generation but the little information we have leaves little doubt as to the tragic plight of this least resistant group of the nation.

WHAT 100 ZLOTYS (20 DOLLARS) BOUGHT IN POLAND

BEFORE THE GERMAN OCCUPATION	AND	AFTER FOUR YEARS OF GERMAN OCCUPATION
725 LBS. BREAD		15 1/2 LBS
OR 3,145 LBS. POTATOES		48 1/2 LBS
OR 68 LBS. BUTTER		3/4 LBS
OR 2 TONS. COAL		1/4 TONS
OR 187 LBS. SOAP		1 LBS
OR 6 1/2 YARDS. CLOTH		1/100 YARDS

THE AVERAGE MONTHLY SALARY IN WARSAW IS 300 ZLOTYS = 60 DOLLARS

GRAPHIC BY PICK 9

"The natural development of Poland's population shows . . . a striking biological ascendancy as compared with Central and West European nations . . . Poland's demographic growth is today similar to that of Germany in 1910 . . ."

—Friedrich Ross: "Volksgruppen und Bevölkerung in Polen" (1938).

"It is probable that (German) war losses (in Russia), combined with increasing deficits in births and increasing numbers of civilian deaths, will render futile the German attempt to wage war without incurring its demographic consequences."

—"Population Index," October, 1942, p. 258. Princeton University and Library of Congress.

BUILDERS OF A NEW POLAND

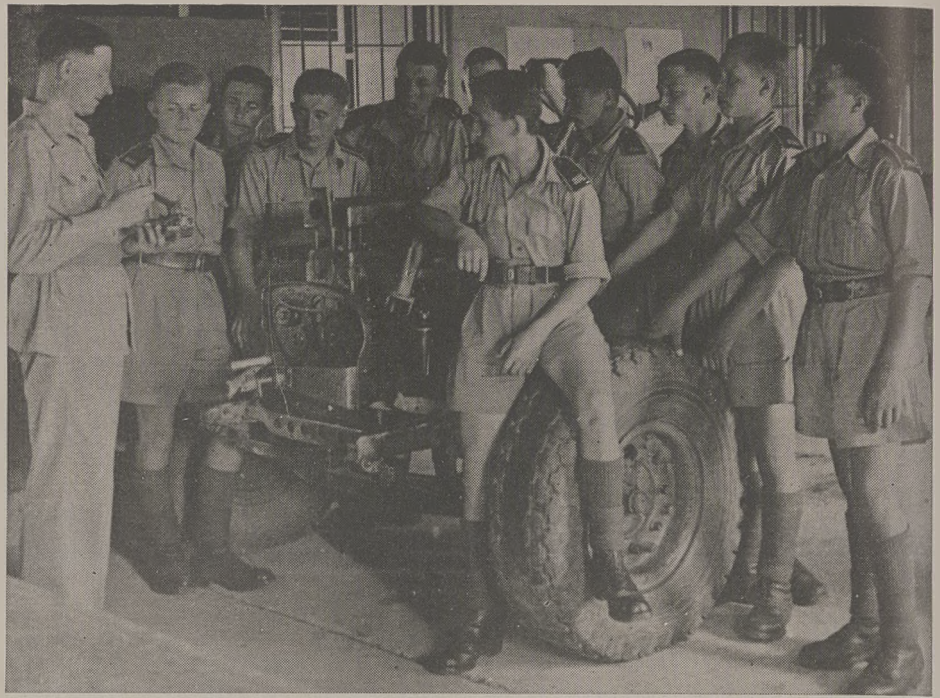
POLISH children evacuated from Russia, most of them orphans, presented a problem to the Polish government. They could not be inducted into the army, they could not be left to the mercy of individuals or child welfare organizations, yet they had to be housed, clothed and fed. The Polish army in the Near East was the only body that had an assignment of supplies, therefore, it was only logical that it should take the children under its wing.

They were separated and organized in the first *Junak* camps in Persia and Iran. There were no clothes for boys in the army stores, so full-sized army shirts and shorts were made to do. The army shared its food, tents and bedding with the *Junaks*. For the sake of order, a military regime was introduced. The *Junaks* became Poland's young soldiers and the girls became *Junior Women's Auxiliaries*.

Since then conditions have changed. Some 3,000 *Junaks* and 600 *Junior Women's Auxiliaries* have been placed in the nine school-camps organized in Palestine and Egypt. Classrooms and libraries replace the provisional tents and outdoor classrooms. The youngest *Junaks* go to Grammar School, the older *Junaks* go to a Cadet School and technical schools or are prepared for college.

The latest news about *Junaks* in school comes from England. 300 of them are to be trained in one of the R.A.F. stations. They are being adopted by Polish Air Force Squadrons, the crews of which will maintain permanent and close contact with the boys.

General Kazimierz Sosnkowski, Commander in Chief of the Polish Armed Forces, attended the opening ceremonies of a Polish Air Training School where he addressed the boys:



An automobile motor holds no secret for them.

"I, the Senior Polish General, greet you, the youngest soldiers of the Republic of Poland, with deepest emotion. I can see in your young and steadfast eyes that you are keen about machines, flying and fighting. I am convinced that you will be eager and diligent students. I do not know whether you will take part in the air battles of this war. If you will not be needed, because, with God's help, this war ends before you grow up, you must remember that besides fighting and revenging Poland's wrongs there are other harder tasks awaiting you.

"You must learn to lead good, brave and worthy lives for Poland's sake.

"Boys, I know well what you have suffered. All these hardships, and misfortunes have strengthened your ardent and sincere love of country. Knowing how steadfast you are, I believe you will become Poland's best soldier-citizens."

The flag of the Polish Air Force was raised and the ranks marched past the Commander-in-Chief. Then *Stefan Petruszewicz* from Wilno, the youngest *Junak*, greeted General Kazimierz Sosnkowski:

"On behalf of my comrades I should like to say there were many of us there, while here there are only a few. From the depths of our young hearts we vow to fulfill all our duties so that in the future we shall be able to work faithfully for the good of Poland."

The ceremony ended with the formal adoption of 12 *Junaks* by the Commander of Squadron 303. When they win their wings they will serve with the famous *Kosciuszko Squadron*.

Thus the Polish *Junaks* have passed another signpost on the road to Poland. The hardships of Russia and *Junak* camps have toughened them for the work that awaits them in this war and in rebuilding a new and greater Poland.



They do not waste their leisure.

FROM WARSAW TO NEW YORK PHILHARMONIC

by JAN LECHON

ARTHUR RODZINSKI's hobby is his Stockbridge farm up in Massachusetts and all the horses, cows, dogs, chickens and bees that go with it. This man who reacts to everything like a true artist, has innumerable passions and interests, but his attachment to the soil expressed in work on his beloved farm is his second life, or rather the deep source whence springs his love and understanding of art.

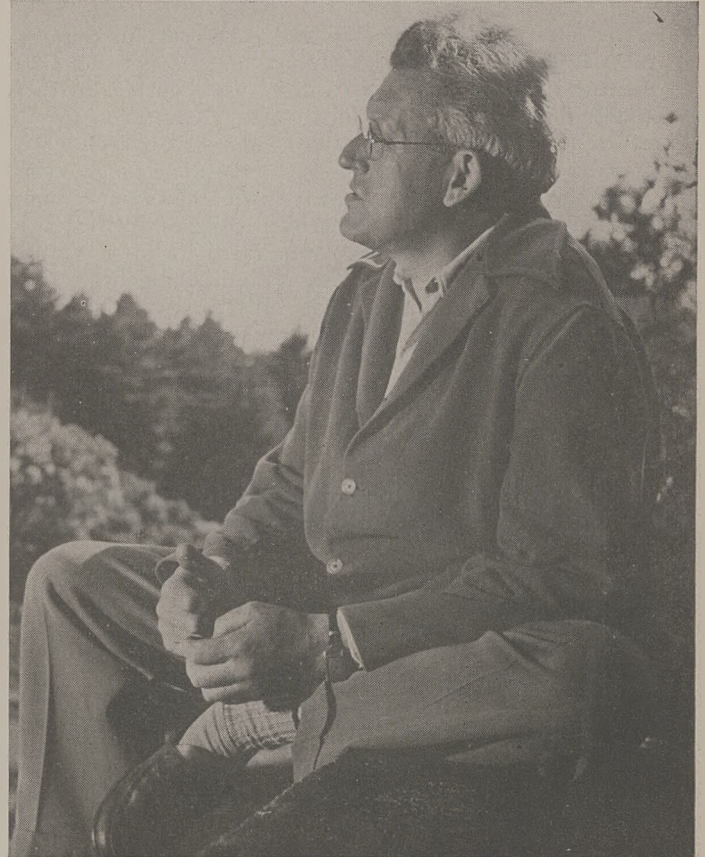
His country home is neither a great estate nor a lordly mansion—just a bit of land, a meadow, a wooded hill and, set in a profusion of flowers, a comfortable, solid house, whose verandas and windows offer a view of the rolling hills that, at every moment of the day, remind Arthur Rodzinski and his wife of the sunsets and sunrises and rustling of the trees in the Tatra foothills of their native Poland.

No patch of land, no flower or vegetable bed, no hive or bush in the hedge, fails to receive Rodzinski's solicitous glance every day, and nothing in the barn, stable or "coach house" is too trifling to cause him concern or joy. When you see Arthur Rodzinski in his large straw hat and traditional blue overalls, leading his horse to the meadow or struggling with a pair of large shears over some especially stubborn branch of a thorny bush, when you listen to his "professional" conversation with his farm assistant, who bears the suggestive name of Rockefeller, you realize that Rodzinski's farm is no casual pastime, no "dude" resort, no passing whim of some blasé city dweller. It is the expression of a passion inbred in every Pole, that causes us to value above wealth and honors the smallest piece of land we can call our own.

In Rodzinski's home your eye rests on the naive Polish kilims that adorn the walls, the Hucul pottery on the shelves, the water colors by Rafal Malczewski, the woodcuts by Konarska, and the reproductions of folk drawings by Stryjenska. And when in the evening, conversation about the fireplace turns to the past, the room is peopled with heart-stirring memories and Polish names—great and small—pass from mouth to mouth. It all makes this rural atmosphere, this landscape so familiar, so Polish to you that you feel you must be living in a dream.

The guests who drop in on the Rodzinskis are those gods from the musical Olympus who always seem inaccessible to mortals, while the every day affairs that Rodzinski discusses with his wife, settled as simply as one would the butcher or milk bill, are often matters of great import for world music and spell anguish or hope for many a fine artist. The man who wields all this power is the same Arthur Rodzinski whom you remember having seen not so long ago, silhouetted against the footlights of the great Warsaw Opera, now in ruins, burned down in the course of a heroic defense; the same Rodzinski whom you often saw in Warsaw cafés with fellow artists, the man about whom you asked, it seems only yesterday, "What? Has Rodzinski really got an American engagement?"

There is no great musician, composer or performer whose signed photograph does not grace the walls or tables of the Stockbridge farm. Toscanini, Weingarten, Horowitz, d'Albert, some already faded or yellowed under the glass, seem



Photograph by Genevieve Naylor
ARTHUR RODZINSKI

to spin for us a tale of Arthur Rodzinski's fantastic career. A Polish visitor selects from all these famous heads Paderewski's lion's mane and reads the dedication with emotion, he is particularly touched by the familiar signature of Karol Szymanowski, he looks longer than necessary at Jozef Hofman's concentrated face, and among so many photogenic smiles he hits upon the most charming and intelligent, that of Arthur Rubinstein. And a Pole reflects with pride that, after all, Polish names—among them Hofman, Huberman, Landowska, Rubinstein and Rodzinski, free and triumphant in America—do stand for something in the world of music.

For many years Arthur Rodzinski has been an American citizen. He considers it his duty not only to present programs of the highest artistic merit, but also to care for the development of music and the talents of the country that accepted him as its own. And he does all this with exemplary conscientiousness and the feverish enthusiasm for new things, so characteristic of him. Nonetheless, Rodzinski's love for Poland has not grown weaker, as Polish-Americans in Cleveland and his artist friends well know.

When one reads his biography in an encyclopedia or music journal, one gets the impression that Rodzinski scaled the ladder of success with perfect ease. But

(Please turn to page 14)



The conductor.

JOZEF CHELMONSKI IN AMERICAN ART COLLECTIONS

by DR. IRENI MOTROWSKA

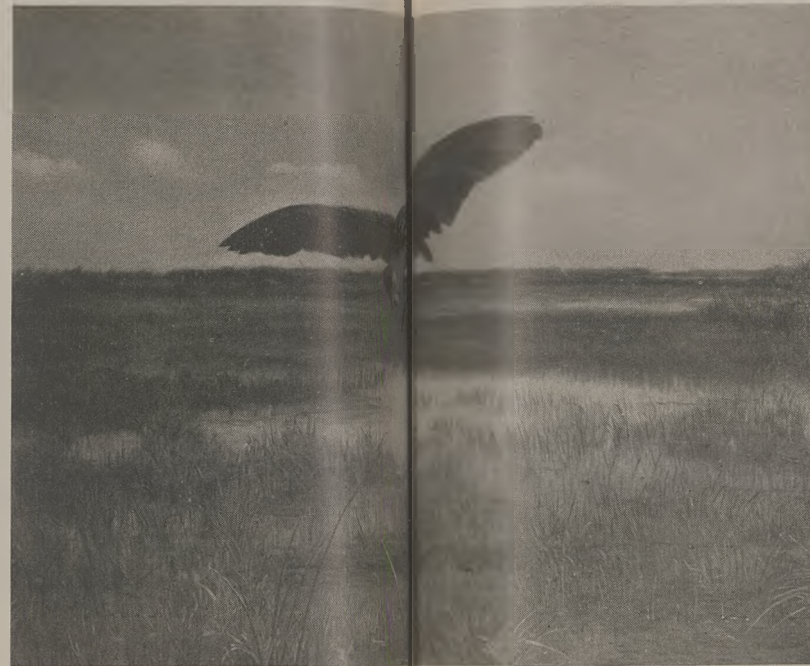
IN the latter half of the 19th and early part of this century, Americans flocked to Munich and Paris to purchase paintings from well-known artists who worked in these international art centers. Thus, many paintings of the Munich school found their way into American collections, as did a great number of priceless 19th century French works that even the Louvre regards with justifiable envy. Among these canvases bought by American collectors, works by artists of various nationalities, temporarily resident abroad, were well represented. As many Poles belonged to these international art colonies, it was only natural that their works, too, should be included in American purchases. In Munich, art lovers from America were especially fond of a group of Polish battle painters, headed by *Jozef Brandt* (1841-1905). But in Paris, Americans sought out the work of *Jozef Chelmonski* (1849-1914), best known of the Polish artists in the French capital.

Chelmonski, who had studied with *Wojciech Gerson* (1831-1901) in Warsaw and then spent two years in Munich, came to Paris in 1875 and remained fourteen years. He was already a mature artist, having to his credit a number of first-rate canvases, among them two of his best, finished in Warsaw in 1875 just before he left. One of them, "*Gossamer*," showing a peasant girl radiant with the joy of life, lying in a field, is owned by the National Museum in Warsaw; the other, "*The Farmstead*," depicting a group of people inspecting a horse, is the property of the National Museum in Cracow. Both constitute the peak of the artist's creativeness in his period devoted to the mirroring of life and movement. Before he painted them, his style was crystalizing; after this date, during his entire stay in Paris, he repeated himself in countless variants, without changing his basic character.

For, in France, *Chelmonski* was consumed by an unappeasable longing for his country. In his imagination he lived over again what he had seen and loved in Poland, and he shut himself off from all new and direct impressions. A source of unlimited inspiration for his Parisian period were, above all, his former vacation trips into the Ukraine in the years 1870-1875. Country fairs, hunts, horses, his famous raging *troikas* and four-in-hands, the borderland types of gentry and peasantry, wide roads snowed under or made impassable by mud—all recur in his works time and again,

but through the years, they are new and alive because drawn from the depths of the artist's soul. *Eligjusz Niewiadomski* wrote in his fine book, "*Polish Painting of the 19th and 20th Centuries*" (1926): "His paintings are snatched up by rich foreigners, mainly Americans. The majority of his priceless canvases have gone overseas." That *Chelmonski* was at one time highly esteemed in the United States is also shown by the fact that he was awarded the gold medal at the International Exhibition in San Francisco in 1894.

Soon however, *Chelmonski* was forgotten and his works—with one exception—were hidden in inaccessible private collections for several decades. Owing to various circumstances, they have slowly begun to come to light. Credit is due to *M. F. Wegrzynek*, of Forest Hills, New York, publisher of the Polish-language newspaper, "*Nowy Swiat*," through whose vigorous efforts five canvases by the artist were brought together. Two other paintings by *Chelmonski* are in American museums, whither they found their way by gift, and a third came out of obscurity a short time ago as the result of steps taken by the widow of the prominent engineer, *Ralph Modjeski*, to find a buyer for the col-



Bittern. BY CHELMONSKI.

M. F. Wegrzynek Collection

the horses' legs will never again be overshadowed to such an extent by spattering snow and harness as in this early painting. The construction of the sleigh will also be more clearly outlined in future pictures. On the canvas from the

the date and place of its execution: "1873 in Munich." It takes us back to the years when the artist was influenced by *Brandt*. We may surmise that it was this great Polish military painter who inspired *Chelmonski* to paint speeding horses. But it is hard to resist the impression that the pair of heavy, fiery, almost heroic steeds pulling the sleigh, owe their genesis to *Piotr Michalowski* (1800-1855) rather than to *Brandt*, while the dark, brownish overtones of the picture express the general tendency of the Munich school. Be that as it may, the motion of these racing horses is already typical of *Chelmonski*. The identical movement of their legs will be repeated more than once in the artist's later works—with this difference that

the important parts of the drawing. Nevertheless, the fact remains that despite these limitations, the "*Sleigh with a Lady*" is a truly beautiful painting, in which both the artist's temperament and technique are discernible at the first glance.

The second earliest painting by *Chelmonski* in America is in the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in Philadelphia: Entitled "*The Borders of Poland*," it bears the inscription "*Jozef Chelmonski, Paris, 1877—Souvenir d'un voyage en Ukraine*." An animated team of four grays is pulling a sleigh over a half-frozen road in the first spring thaw. A rosy horizon in the distance tells us another day is dawning. The artist concentrated on the bodies of the horses, which stand out not only by their light color but also by their perfect finish. They are in marked contrast with the dark figures of the country gentleman and the lad in the sleigh. The picture's composition is carefully built around a diagonal line, while the landscape background, maintained in subdued tones, is treated sketchily. This canvas was at one time the property of H. C. Gibson, Vice President of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, who died in 1890. In 1896 it was given to the Academy as part of the large and valuable *Gibson* collection.

A year younger than "*The Borders of Poland*" is another scene from the Ukraine, dated and signed, now in the *Wegrzynek* collection. Four spirited horses in harness have suddenly veered round in the center of the village, almost upsetting the carriage. This painting is not as carefully executed as *Chelmonski's* other works in America, either as regards drawing or composition. But the three following paintings in *Wegrzynek's* collection are again up to the artist's usual level and equal, if not in size, at least in artistry the famous "*Four-in-hand*" of the National Museum in Cracow (1881). Of these three pictures in the *Wegrzynek* collection the earliest is dated 1880: a horse hitched to a sleigh moving over deep snow, is racing straight at the spectator. From 1882, date both the unusually beautiful "*Country Fair*" and the painting showing a four-in-hand pulling a carriage over stones and splashing mud.

Also in 1882 was done a smaller painting now in the Newark Museum, New Jersey. It depicts a sleigh lost in a

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Speed. BY CHELMONSKI.

M. F. Wegrzynek Collection

lection inherited from his mother, *Helena Modjeska*, the famous actress.

This canvas from the *Ralph Modjeski* collection is the earliest *Chelmonski* work in America and in several respects it is perhaps the most interesting. A painting of huge dimensions showing "*A Sleigh with a Lady*," it is signed by the artist and gives

sleigh looks out, it does so only to look at the horses or supervise the driver. *Chelmonski's* Munich picture bears the characteristic traits of the youthful works of many artists, i.e., certain dependencies of style, certain psychological inconsistencies, and a certain structural confusion resulting from the fact that unimportant details overshadow



Courtesy of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, Pa.

On the Borders of Poland. BY JOZEF CHELMONSKI.

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snow storm: an uneasy driver and passenger, tired horses and hounds in quest of the right road. Of all works by *Chelmonski* in America, this painting alone shows some trace of *Brandt's* influence. The picture in Newark, called "Snow Scene," was presented to the Museum in 1927 by *Mrs. Charles Bradley* and *Mrs. J. O. H. Pitney* of Morristown, New Jersey, who had inherited it from the *Valentine* family of Newark.

The last canvas by *Chelmonski*, known in the United States and acquired by *Wegrzynek* but a few years ago, dates from 1892 and brings us to an entirely new period in *Chelmonski's* artistic activity. For in 1889, *Chelmonski* returned to Poland, buried himself in a desolate village of Mazovia and completely changed his style of painting. From now on, almost his only motif for his works was the Polish landscape, blending into a harmonious whole with the peasants that complete it. The speeding horses, the movement, the energetic gentleman and farmhand have all disappeared. In this his second period the artist grew to love quiet and solitude, which enabled him to discover the great, hidden charm of the humble Mazovian landscape. As only the greatest in the annals of art, 40-year-old *Chelmonski* was able to break with his own style, just as soon as he realized he had become mannered, and pass to a new creative stage at an age when many artists are artistically finished. The change that took place in *Chelmonski's* creativeness is characteristic of the changes that occur in the style of artists who, like him, are reborn in the middle of their life. As is usual in such cases, *Chelmonski's* attention shifted from subjects showing active life to subjects showing contemplative life. In the realm of technique this change corresponded to a shift in emphasis from problems of draughtsmanship to problems of color and



M. F. Wegrzynek Collection

Country Fair. BY JOZEF CHELMONSKI.

light. Such turning points in the artistic life of individuals are in the nature of a miniature repetition of artistic evolutions that sometimes take place in the course of centuries in the life of nations.

The *Chelmonski* canvas in the *Wegrzynek* collection was one of the first to come out of the artist's new epoch and doubtless ranks among his finest works. Of especially large size, it depicts a bittern, hovering over swamp lands. An indescribable poetry breathes from this painting. Mr. *Wegrzynek* also owns a copper engraving executed after this painting in 1893 by the outstanding Polish engraver, *Feliks Jasinski* (1862-1907). Finally, in Dr. *Wachil's* collection in Philadelphia, now presented to the Museum of the Polish Roman Catholic Union in Chicago, is a woodcut reproducing this painting and executed by *Jozef Holewinski* (1848-1917).

When, after a long stay abroad, tired by his success and

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Four-in-Hand. BY JOZEF CHELMONSKI.

National Museum in Cracow

POLAND'S AGRARIAN POLICY

by R. KRYGIER

Mr. Krygier is a Polish journalist now temporarily residing in Australia. This article appeared in the POLISH AND CENTRAL EUROPEAN REVIEW, Vol. 2, No. 1, July 1, 1943, published in Sydney, Australia.

IN many articles and discussions about Poland, particularly in recent months, the opinion has been expressed that Poland was a feudal country dominated by big land-owners who were alleged to have influenced deeply her internal and external policy, and to continue doing so at present.

To get a clear picture of the true position—that differs greatly from what some people believe, it may be well to analyze the land problem and land reform in Poland, a vital matter in a country with 60% of rural population.

Centuries ago, Poland had the largest expanse of territory in Europe. The nobility (landed gentry), in comparison with other countries, formed a relatively high percentage of the population (about 12%). In the course of Polish expansion towards the East, the Polish and Lithuanian nobility engaged in a sort of colonization of the newly acquired territories, and large estates were formed in Poland's eastern territories, some of them even developing into quasi-independent and autonomic domains. These domains extended in some cases to hundreds of thousands of acres, differing little from the agricultural structure of Tsarist Russia, Germany, or other parts of Eastern Europe. The French Revolution broke up the big estates in France, a process which in the 19th century swept slowly over Germany, but continued to progress eastward in Europe.

In 1918, when Poland regained her independence, the land structure in Poland was analogous to that of the partitioning powers (Russia, Germany, Austria). The land problem in the new independent Republic at once became acute. So the first Polish Parliament adopted during 1919-20 two acts introducing a compulsory land reform scheme, the principle of compensation for land being carried through by a majority of one vote.

It should be explained that to bring about land reform in Poland a mere division of land would be quite insufficient. To assure a sound and normal structure, consolidation of narrow land strips and liquidation of easements had to be carried out, as well as improvements such as river work, canals and drainage. This momentous task of far-reaching land reform was begun almost immediately normal conditions were established. Of the total arable area of 63,200,000 acres, 45,870,000 acres, or 63%, belonged to small peasants leaving, therefore, only 17,330,000 acres, i.e., 27%, subject to land reform of all large estates of more than 247 acres. Of this, 8,030,000 acres, or about 47%, were divided up to the end of 1938—734,000 new homesteads having been created or enlarged. In this way, just before the outbreak of World War II, of the total arable area of Poland more than 87% already belonged to small and middle-sized farmers and peasants, leaving something less than 13% in the hands of large landowners.

Much as one may deplore the fact that land reform was not completed during Poland's independent life, the failure to do so did not rest with behind-the-scenes influence of large landowners on the government.

Other factors exerted more influence than they could possibly have done. By far the most important factor was money. The immense scheme of Poland's land reform was very complex and an enormous outlay of money was needed. For that purpose the Rural Bank, owned and controlled by

the State, was created. Special bonds of that Bank were issued with the object of financing the land reform. Poland's financial market was too poor, however, to bear the great burden alone. The Rural Bank, therefore, tried to find foreign investors, but with very little success. It had to limit its activities in accordance with its own resources, and its result is easy to understand.

Another and by no means unimportant point was the high percentage of forests (22% of the whole area) on the larger estates. As these forests had to be preserved and exploited on a carefully established plan, it was decided to eliminate forest properties from the reform scheme, because of economic, climatic and other reasons. An overwhelming majority of the Polish Parliament was of the opinion that the application of land reform to the forests would lead to their disappearance and be contrary to the interests both of the Polish peasants and of the nation. Also out of the total area of Polish forests about 60% were and are owned by the State, their exploitation being carried out by a special Director at the Ministry for Agriculture and Agrarian Reform. Of the remaining area of 40%, about 8% constitute the property of small and middle-sized farmers and 22% are owned by large estates.

Poland is often compared to other Eastern and Central European countries which have been more successful in accomplishing their agrarian reform. It should be remembered that in some countries the problem of large estates was also one of the political influence of other national groups. Besides social and economic reasons for reform, a strong national stimulus helped to speed it up. In Poland, this stimulus was much weaker than elsewhere, for virtually all large estates were owned by Poles. In Finland, Estonia and Latvia, the large landowners were mostly German Baltic barons; in Lithuania, Poles; in Rumania, Hungarians and Germans; in the Bohemian part of Czechoslovakia, Austro-Germans; and in Slovakia, Hungarians; all foreign and potentially dangerous elements descended from previous occupants. In Poland the large estates were not only owned by Poles, but the fight for independence, all through the 123 years of partition and the five armed insurrections, were largely supported by the Polish gentry and the educated classes. All the great names in Polish partition history came from these two groups of the population, like Kosciuszko, Mickiewicz, Sienkiewicz, Chopin, Paderewski, Pilsudski and Dmowski.

Although no one has ever denied the urgent necessity of completing agrarian reform, it would not by itself solve Poland's economic and social difficulties. The number of non-property-owning population greatly exceeded the amount of land that could have been made available for them. Therefore, only a steady and substantial increase of industrial employment, the reorganization of trade, the creation of primary and secondary industries, planned in conjunction with agrarian reform, can bring about a sound and durable solution.

There is another misapprehension about Poland that should be corrected. In some circles it is believed that in the last 25 years Poland has been governed by gentry. Although the writer is far from approving the pre-war Polish regime, he would point out that the fact of belonging to the Polish gentry did not necessarily imply that one belonged to a reactionary group or party. Most of the outstanding leaders of the Polish Socialist Party—Pilsudski, Jodko-Narkiewicz, Daszynski, Limanowski and Niedzialkowski, one of the heroes of the Defense of Warsaw, came from the gentry.

PRISONER OF WAR No. 619/45

by S. LESZCZYC*



AUGUST 14th, 1940. In a small town of Lorraine, within the conventional barrack square, a batch of officer prisoners was being handed over to the commander of the "transition camp."

The roll was called by an interpreter. One of the Frenchmen, a young cavalry lieutenant from Saumur was called. Smart and handsome he strolled leisurely to the other side. His obviously harmless indifference called forth an unexpected reaction. The German dashed up to the Frenchman and slapped his face. Before the boy could recover from his astonishment, the German kicked and struck him again. The chief of the French group, an old major of artillery, rushed at the German officer swinging his stick. The bayonets of the escort barred his way. The German walked back to his place, as though nothing had happened.

The camp prepared for us was of a tremendous size. Several hundred identical huts, all painted dark green were surrounded by a double barbed wire fence. Along the fence at a hundred metres intervals, were wooden guardhouses, each with a searchlight and machine gun. At night the prying beams of the searchlights formed a grim but dramatic spectacle.

The camp was intended for the French and meant to impress them favorably. We Poles were here because for reasons of policy the Germans did not admit the existence of a Polish Army and had classed us as members of the Foreign Legion.

In the square where the roll-call was held everybody had his own place. The men were divided into groups of about 300, each led by its commander. The Poles, although we were only 70, formed a group of their own.

Excerpts from "PRISONER OF WAR 619/45" by S. Leszczyc, translated by Peter Jordan; Atlantic Publishing Co. Ltd., London, 1943.

The cadet interpreter, who spoke good French and quite passable Polish, arrived panting and puffing. Then came the hated commander of the block, Lieutenant Staengel. His every movement was a theatrical gesture. He saluted arrogantly and turned to the center of the square to make a speech.

German censorship discovered in the French prisoners' letters to their families many intolerable references to the masters of the camp. One of the officers was said to have asked for "*un dictionnaire boche*." A naval officer was placed under arrest.

The Paris jokes about the "*Boches*," in which they were always unable to distinguish the letters "*p*" and "*b*" were well founded. The old seaman did ask for a German dictionary, but he wrote "*dictionnaire de poche*" (a pocket dictionary).

There was plenty of artistic activity in the camp. The amateur theatre gave pleasure alike to the performers and authors, as well as to some members of the audience. The first revue had a dangerous, albeit Wagnerian title: "*Les maîtres chanteurs de Nuremberg*" (*Maître chanteur*, means blackmailer in French). The double meaning completely escaped the notice of the camp authorities. Subtlety is not one of their outstanding traits.

Painting was the most widely practised art. At first we painted with enthusiasm the picturesque pine forest beyond the barbed wire or the odd bulky, half medieval wooden gates adorning the *Reichsparteitagsgelaende*. But the block commander issued strict orders forbidding the painting of any of the security features at the camp. In the future, landscape painters had to exert their imagination over a single and somewhat uninspiring subject—rows of identical green huts.

Every block had to organize its own individual life. Although they were divided only by wire fences, the blocks

were strictly isolated. Each had its own library, reading room, theatre and classroom.

Our "classroom," started by Captain H., was very successful. Every one was asked to prepare a lecture on the subject he knew best. It had to be short, one hour at most. After the lecture there was always a lively debate. These lectures were held on Sundays and Thursdays, at 8 p.m.

German for beginners was taught by one of our colleagues, a Lieutenant of Engineers. He spoke German without a trace of accent. I was not surprised when, looking in London through the files of my friends, I discovered that he had escaped.

Then we were moved from the *Oflag*. The news came suddenly. At midday all Polish cadets were told to be ready for departure at 6 a.m. next day. Our destination was unknown. We were going somewhere as "voluntary workers" . . .

Of course we were not volunteers at all. But that did not worry the Germans very much. They like to talk about respecting the international law with regard to prisoners of war, but actually apply it only when convenient.

We were exactly thirty Polish cadets. They would be sent to work. We realized that there was nothing to be done about it. We prisoners have practically no rights. In any case, what does law mean to a German?

The new camp was encircled by barbed wire, just as the *Oflag* had been. The huts were small.

The new camp was far from clean. In spite of ditches dug to drain it, the paths of the *Stalag* were always filled with mud. The camp was situated on a slope and built in contradiction to the most elementary dictates of hygiene. The small wooden huts built at the foot of the slope were invariably damp. It was hard to keep them clean, but the Poles somehow managed to do it. There were no facilities for disinfection. The prisoners were allowed only one bath a month—and not always that.

Long captivity cannot break the spirit of Polish soldiers. Even the Germans had a certain kind of respect for those men. They had to admit that these "barbarians," as they call the Poles, compared rather well with most other nationalities.

Everything is different from what it was in the *Oflag*. The name *Stalag* is an abbreviation of the German word "*Stamm-lager*," which means a base camp. Most of the prisoners on the lists of the *Stalag* are scattered in the district, working on farms. All the administrative, postal and other matters concerning these prisoners are dealt by the camp administration. In the village where they work, the prisoners are guarded by only one soldier. Such a group is known as an *Arbeitskommando*. The men in camp are the sick, those undergoing punishment, those employed by the central office of the *Stalag*, and a certain number of prisoners forming a labor pool, available for farm work and industry alike.

We Poles were still treated as N.C.O.'s. So under the German regulations we could not be compelled to work. Later these restrictions were forgotten. In the meantime they tried to persuade us to work. Our hosts, as we discovered, have an unending store of tricks for dealing with all such situations.

Work in the "*ochs*," that is farms, was very strenuous. The Bavarian peasants work hard themselves, and usually demand from the prisoners, working under armed guard, efforts beyond the capacity of normal men. The working day on a farm began at six in the morning and lasted until ten at night. The morning and evening were spent attending to the cows (that is why the prisoners call this work

"*ochs*"). The whole day was filled with field work, with no break for lunch. Lunch consisted of bread and lard, which the prisoner ate without interrupting his work.

Our men, mostly peasants themselves, were astonished by the low cultural level of the Bavarian farmers, whose wants were very limited, although most of them were prosperous.

Factory work is the worst thing that can happen to a prisoner. The working hours were somewhat shorter than on a farm, but the work was as hard, and there was no compensation in better food. The prisoners from our *Stalag* were never employed in large factories, certainly not in any armament factories.

German soldiers are men of all types. Some of them very stupid, others good natured. Here is a story told by a Polish soldier:

"It was a very bad job. The farmer was sweating us to death. I wanted to change for something else. I applied to the doctor, but I was not ill enough to be sent back. When I could not bear it any more, I decided to attempt escape. Then they would catch me and send me back to the camp and I could try to get some better work. They did catch me. My escort was taking me back to the camp. He was furious, for I had given him a bad fright. He ordered me to run into the field and drop, then to run again with frog leaps. This went on until I was exhausted. Then he struck me on the head with the butt of his rifle. I did not know what to do. I had a razor blade. So when I fell and I saw him approaching, I cut my throat. Some people were passing by and he sent one of them to fetch a doctor. The others gathered round shouting at me '*Verfluchter Polack*.' Blood was dripping from my neck. They just shouted and abused me. When the doctor bandaged me, the guard put me in wood stocks so that I could not hurt myself. That's how I came here."

. . . The Germans decided to use the vast human reserves they had accumulated in their prisoners' camps for the realization of various complicated separatist and minority schemes. They picked out of the ranks of the Polish, French and Belgian armies representatives of the most fanatic "minorities" who were to be released and sent to some unknown destination.

The most entertaining of the French minorities were the Russian. The six Russians in our room were all emigrés, or descendants of emigrés of 1917. Suddenly they also were promoted to the rank of "national minority." It happened in a very odd way. The White Ruthenians had been picked out of the ranks of the Poles. They had to pass an examination in the language and then they were sent somewhere, presumably to be released.

On one occasion the Germans noticed the Russians in our hut. They were asked what sort of Russians they were. They answered "Whites."

"Ah! *Weisse Russen*. Then you should be released."

What had actually happened was that the German officer mixed up the political with the racial classification. When he heard "White Russians," he thought that they were White Ruthenians. The White Ruthenians are people living on the borderland of Poland and Russia who speak the White Ruthenian dialect. They have absolutely nothing in common with "White Russians," who are the exiled opponents of the Bolshevik regime.

. . . The delivery of a parcel provides one of the fairly rare opportunities for leaving the quadrangle of prisoners' houses.

Parcels sent by the British Red Cross are invariably very good. They are mostly made up of tinned stuff. Unfortun-

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when this doctor of laws, turned musical conductor, tells of his early youth in Lwow, of his early manhood in Warsaw, one begins to see that his success was well earned. One is amazed to learn how few lessons he had from the professors mentioned in his biography, how after a few rehearsals he had the courage to conduct operas in which he scored great personal triumphs. And one arrives at the conclusion that Rodzinski is a born musician who conducts as naturally as a bird sings.

The inner fire that could impel this Polish artist, who began his musical education as a member of the claque at the Opera, as a page-turner for pianists and as an accompanist in third-rate concert halls, to attempt the most difficult orchestrations, was discovered by Leopold Stokowski, on one of his visits to Warsaw. Stokowski saw at once that here was the finest conductor the Warsaw Opera could wish and one of the finest orchestra leaders in the world.

America, by its generosity, its idealism, gave Rodzinski's talent the opportunity to burst into full flame. It was in America that Rodzinski perfected his methods and it was from America that Rodzinski's fame radiated. In this sense Rodzinski has the right and the duty to consider himself an American conductor.

Given the chance, Rodzinski waxes enthusiastic on the subject of the magnificent tempo of musical growth in the United States, the superb conditions of work for great artists, the fine schools of music, the hosts of music listeners un-

dreamed of in Europe. In Cleveland, Rodzinski always tried to spur the creativeness of composers, to add new works to his repertoire. He plans to continue this practice in New York. He hopes to give an opportunity to be heard to young artists, so that their talent may be recognized irrespective of the oft-times too personal judgment of individual critics.

New York has long wanted Rodzinski here for good. It used to attend his guest appearances in force; it is familiar with his great renditions of Ravel, Shostakovich, Strauss; it remembers his triumphs in opera, his unforgettable "Electra" and "Lady Macbeth"; it knows his great capacity for work and his ambition to achieve something more lasting and meaningful than a momentary triumph. New York has entered with confidence on the new musical season, marked by Rodzinski's leadership of the New York Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra.

Neither I nor anyone, who remembers Rodzinski in Warsaw, can see his gray head towering over the greatest orchestra in the world capital of music without instinctively closing his eyes and seeing the pillars of our beloved Warsaw Opera, where Arthur Rodzinski experienced the great happiness of his youthful dreams.

And I know that this memory is dearest to him, too, and that it is his cherished hope that it will be given to him to conduct the Warsaw orchestra on the day, when for the first time, in the new Opera, Polish notes will re-echo full of hope eternal.

—Condensed from *Tygodnik Polski*, New York.

PRISONER OF WAR NO. 619/45

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nately the Germans tear off all labels for fear something is written on the under side. Dick T., the leader of the British group, received one such parcel.

"Where does this parcel come from?" the German asked him.

"What do you mean?" said Dick who was trying to determine what the tins held.

"Where did they send it from?" insisted the German. He was a private soldier, an elderly, quiet man.

"Can't you see it's from the Red Cross?"

"Yes, but from what town?" asked the soldier.

"From London, of course," replied Dick.

The German shrugged his shoulders and said with an ironical smile: "Stupid propaganda. Do you think we'll be taken in? We know London has been wiped out. There is no London."

... We seldom play cards in our hut. There is plenty of time for any game, but no one seems to care to play. There are, however, many men who spend hours over patience. The question we expect the cards to answer is not whether we would be free within a year or six months. We are practically all machine gun specialists. Our query is invariably: "Shall we be able, before the year is out, to press the trigger of a machine gun against the Germans?"

JOZEF CHELMONSKI IN AMERICAN ART COLLECTIONS

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the intrigues of city life that are its invariable concomitant, *Chelmonski* settled in a Polish village to seek solace in the beauty of his native land, the first years of his artistic life must have come back to him. He must have remembered the trips into the country, "for landscape" with Professor *Gerson*, who was so dearly loved by all young artists. In his mind's eye, the fresh water colors of the master doubtless came to life again. A new contact with Polish folklore and the memories of the happy moments of his youth did what numerous militant exhibits of French impressionists failed to do in Paris—opened his eyes to color. And *Chelmonski* began to paint Polish landscapes as simple, candid, lyrical and pure in color as those of *Gerson*. But in contrast to *Gerson*, who, in keeping with his epoch, valued historical

painting above landscape painting, *Chelmonski* did not treat these as something incidental or casual. By the creative work of his second period, he won for Polish landscape a privileged place in the realm of Polish painting, and by the same token, guided Polish art, which had hitherto revolved around so-called theme painting, into new paths.

There are doubtless many other works by *Chelmonski* in American collections. Perhaps with the years, passing from private to public collections, they too may emerge from hiding.

The cover: At the gun turret on the Polish destroyer KRAKOWIAK

AUSTRALIA AND POLAND HONOR STRZELECKI

A Memorial Stone over the grave of the famous Polish scientist, Pawel Edmund Strzelecki, was recently unveiled in a London cemetery on the occasion of the 70th Anniversary of his death. The stone bears the following inscription in English: "Sir Paul Edmund Strzelecki, KCB, CMG, FRGS, 1796 to 1873, Explorer, Scholar and Philanthropist, explored and named with the name of Kosciuszko the highest peak of Australian Alps in the year 1840." Prime Minister Mikolajczyk and High Commissioner of Australia, Sir Stanley Bruce unveiled the stone. In his address, Prime Minister Mikolajczyk said:

"It is remarkable that the Poles who, in the 19th century lost their own independence, were able during this period to play the role of pioneers of science in foreign countries. Hampered in their own country by foreign oppressors they gave freely of their genius and energy for the benefit of free nations. After working throughout their whole life in foreign surroundings, these Poles were a liaison between the culture of far-away countries and Poland.

"Paul Strzelecki, the 70th anniversary of whose death we commemorate today, belongs to this long list of Polish travelers and scientists of the 19th Century. All his energy and generous nature were used in the service of free Anglo-Saxon nations. He opened a new chapter in the history of Polish-Australian relations. In remote Australia, Strzelecki never forgot his mother country. When, in his explorations he reached the highest summit in the Australian Alps, he named it by the name dear to every Pole, to every freedom-loving man—Kosciuszko—the great Polish soldier and patriot, national hero of two countries: Poland and the United States.

"That name may be considered a symbol of those high ideals of democracy and humanitarianism for which Australia and Poland are fighting today. Strzelecki's expedition and scientific research established the first bond of friendship between the Australian and Polish nations. This bond has been lately sealed in common bloodshed.

"In Lybia Polish soldiers fought shoulder to shoulder with the famous 9th Australian Division. While Poles manned machine-guns, Australians manned anti-tank guns. On other sectors Po-

SWIT UNDERGROUND POLISH RADIO

SWIT reports that in the concentration camp at Oswiecim a so-called gas chamber has been constructed. The gas chamber has been tested for a whole week and some thousands of Poles and Jews, among them many women, have been gassed in these "tests." In Oswiecim about a hundred people are cremated every day.

V.V.V.

SWIT praises sabotage activities of Polish railwaymen on railway communications. Sabotage results are evident everywhere. "Reichsbahn," organ of the German railways, published an article accusing Polish railwaymen of sabotage and of damaging railway cars. SWIT states that sabotage on the Polish railway lines will be continued without let up, in view of its strategic importance.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports the following proof of low morale now prevailing amongst the Germans in Poland: German authorities in Warsaw appealed urgently for Germans to take part in defense work. Out of 26,045 Germans living in the city only 105 men and 429 women answered the appeal.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that German authorities are distributing arms to German settlers in Poland. Officially, the arms are to be used for fighting "bandits" but the fact that arms are being distributed to the civilian population is proof that

the Germans are fearful of events to come in Poland.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports a daring exploit by the Polish underground forces. More than a month ago a death sentence was passed by the Directorate of Underground Resistance on Buerckel, the German Governor of the notorious Pawiak prison in Warsaw. At ten a.m., September 7th, it was carried out. As he was waiting for a street car at the corner of Marszalkowska and Litewska Streets, two men approached him, a shot rang out. Buerckel was killed by the first shot. A group of armed Germans jumped out of a passing street car to rescue him but the other Pole opened machine gun fire on them. Six were killed on the spot. Both Poles escaped safely. A similar fate awaits the Governors of Oswiecim, Tremblinka, Majdanek and other camps. They have all been sentenced to death by the Directorate of Underground Resistance.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports a battle in the famous Tuchol Forests in Western Poland between the soldiers of Polish Underground forces and Germans. A detachment of German troops attacked the Poles but were forced to withdraw leaving behind many dead and wounded. Polish units operating in that district are being continually strengthened by Kaszubian peasants forcibly conscripted into the German army who have succeeded in escaping to neighboring forests.

POLISH AIR FORCE'S SPLENDID RECORD

In September the Polish Fighter Squadrons shot down 26 German planes, i.e., one-sixth of all German fighters shot down by the R.A.F. fighters. If we base our computation on the 132 planes shot down during daylight operations only—and Polish Fighter Squadrons only took part in daylight operations—then Poles have shot down one-fifth of all enemy fighters brought down over enemy territory.

lish artillery protected Australian diggers.

"The flag of the Polish Merchant Marine is by no means an unusual sight in Australian ports and we are proud that Polish ships are still playing their part sometimes in getting supplies to Australia. All this is just a small symbol of our brotherhood-in-arms. It has existed on many fronts because Australian and Polish soldiers guarded many fronts and have seen and understood many things together. They realized that war like peace is indivisible, that the battles in eastern deserts, on Polish plains, in skies of Britain, or

POLISH SUBMARINE SINKS FIVE SHIPS

The Polish submarine "Dzik," operating with the Royal Navy in the Mediterranean during the attempted evacuation of German forces from Corsica torpedoed and sank two supply ships: one large, the other medium size in Bastia Roads. Three Siebel ferries used for transporting enemy troops to the Italian mainland were also torpedoed and seen sinking. In addition, "Dzik" scored hits on a large transport and a large tanker.

Pacific Islands are only fragments of the same fight for liberty and democracy, the same fight against oppression and tyranny."

Then the High Commissioner spoke stressing Strzelecki's importance as scholar and explorer, and expressed hope that brighter days will come again when Poles will be able to work in their own country for the benefit and progress of humanity. Bruce remarked that the ceremony was an expression of the Polish-Australian friendship and cooperation which should continue even stronger in peace time, for the benefit of both peoples.

"MALNUTRITION" USED TO HASTEN EXTERMINATION

How through a diabolical misuse of food control the Germans are systematically depopulating Poland by means of a program of "planned malnutrition," is revealed in recent reports received from the Polish underground. These are confirmed by German official sources, including the latest edition of the Nazi government publication, "Statistische Jahrbuch des Deutschen Reichs," which has just reached this country.

Pieced together, the figures, more sensational than any words, provide the first rounded picture of the terrible success achieved by the Germans in their "cold" program of "exterminating" the Poles.

Denied virtually every food regarded as essential for subsistence, Polish mothers, children and aged are dying off at a rapid pace. Absolutely refused to Poles are bread made from wheat, veal, pork, ham, poultry, most fish, most vegetables, milk, and a long list of other necessary "foods."

As a result, malnutrition and illness arising from lack of nourishment is carrying off 29 out of every 1,000 Poles. This is more than double the death rate in Poland before the war. Deaths from tuberculosis in Warsaw alone are now 8,890 a year per 100,000 inhabitants, compared with 2,850 before the Nazi invasion—an increase of more than 300 per cent.

The Jews, of course, are suffering even more heavily than their non-Jewish countrymen. Non-Jewish Poles are allowed a per capita ration of 700 calories a day; Jews, only 400 calories. On the other hand, the German occupants are given a ration of 3,000 calories.

Jews are forbidden all meats, fats and milk, and allowed only 14 oz. of bread a week. Non-Jewish Poles are permitted 68 oz. every seven days. But this is an ersatz bread, composed mainly of sawdust, causing severe stomach illnesses.

Even the Black Market affords little hope for the starving Poles. The price of 2-3½ lb. of butter is 100 zlotys—or \$20—on the Black Market: far out of the reach of the Polish workers, who average only \$60 a month in wages, even in Warsaw.

The methodical starvation of the Poles, according to German publications, is part of the German plan to prevent Poland's population from increasing faster than the Germans—the Nazis pointing to their great losses in the war.

Address by Hon. Scott W. Lucas

Senator from Illinois,

IN TRIBUTE TO DEFENDERS OF POLAND

"Throughout America patriotic citizens in every walk of life have paid tribute to the defenders of Poland, which four years ago this month was invaded and overrun by the Nazi army under the leadership of Adolf Hitler.

"It was 5:45 in the morning on that eventful day of September 1, 1939, when, without warning or a declaration of war, Poland felt the might of the Nazi army. The Poles were still asleep. Their anti-aircraft guns were not manned, their planes were drawn up in rows on their airfields. Nazi bombers caught them completely by surprise, bombed them unmercifully, and destroyed much of the Polish air force on the ground in the first three hours of the war . . . Three days before the Nazi invasion Hitler had agreed to have Poland send an emissary to Berlin with full powers to settle the Polish question. Before Warsaw had time to send an emissary to Berlin, or even to receive Hitler's terms, the Nazis had begun their ruthless invasion. For six years Hitler had been promising Poland peace. And the request for the Polish emissary was only a ruse to set the German war machinery rolling at the proper time.

"This was the new 'blitzkrieg without warning' on an unsuspecting neighbor. When asked, following the invasion of Poland, how the Germans justified it, General Alexander Loehr, then commander of Hitler's southeast air fleet, said: 'It is our new philosophy of war. It is the most merciful type of warfare. It surprises your enemy, paralyzes him in one blow, and shortens the war by weeks, maybe months.'

"The method has not shortened the war . . . It has succeeded only in arousing 32 nations to the solemn determination, backed by their colossal armed might, that these traitors to human decency shall be hammered to unconditional surrender. Already in Europe and in the Pacific, Poland, Manchuria, and Pearl Harbor begin to be avenged.

"History tells us that Polish citizens were found in each of the Thirteen Colonies. One of the first citizens of Poland to make a name for himself in this country was Thaddeus Kosciuszko. He came direct from Poland to enter the United States Army in the Revolutionary War, in 1776. So distinguished was his record as a military genius in the battle of Yorktown and in New

York that General George Washington promoted him to the rank of colonel in the field artillery. He became known as the Father of American Artillery.

"In that same struggle for independence, another citizen of Polish birth came to America to participate in this righteous cause. His name was Casimir Pulaski. So distinguished was his record as a military man that he was promoted to brigadier general in Washington's army and thereafter became chief of the dragoons in 1777. He was a brave man. He was always out in front and it was while leading his troops in the storming on the fort at Savannah Ga., that he was killed.

"On this anniversary of the invasion of Poland, it is well to remember that Poland was the first nation to oppose armed resistance to the Nazi onslaught. She refused to surrender. No nation has suffered more at the hands of the brutal conquerors. Cardinal Hinsley, broadcasting to the Polish nation on Easter Sunday, 1940, said: 'The brutality and the cruelty of extermination the like of which the world has never seen before.' But, Poland is not defeated. Her suffering will not be in vain. The fact that little Polish children are so weak from lack of food that they cannot play or laugh will not be forgotten in a world where civilization is on the march.

"General Sikorski, Polish Prime Minister and Commander in Chief of Poland, said shortly before his death: 'Poland will continue to fight until final victory. True to her traditions, she is fighting for the realization of her oldest maximum: "The union of the free with the free, on a basis of mutual equality." Regardless of overwhelming odds, Poland was the first to challenge brutal aggression. She will be the last to leave the field of battle.'

"In those words the general was telling the world that Poland even in exile continues to fight. She has a tremendous number of soldiers in the Middle East, an air force, a navy twice the size of Poland's pre-war navy, a merchant fleet, the tonnage which has not decreased in spite of the war service it has seen throughout the world. And so Poland carries on, true to her traditions of the past. She anxiously awaits the hour of redemption.

"Poland should have a right to live without fear of Germany as the little State of Rhode Island has nothing to fear from its next-door neighbor, the large State of New York."